

PARTNERS

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New SHBP Eligibility System

In November, the Department of Community Health (DCH) entered into a partnership with Vitech Systems Group to implement a new membership eligibility, enrollment and billing system for the State Health Benefit Plan (SHBP). The new system is scheduled for implementation in early 2006.

Features of the Vitech/DCH V3 Health Plan Administration System (HPAS) will provide both you and your employees 24/7 Web-based access to SHBP enrollment and accounting functions.

V3 HPAS will be able to import an employer's electronic employee

demographic files to establish the employee's eligibility and access to the enrollment application. It will also be able to import your payroll deduction files for the purpose of reconciling SHBP coverage based on those deductions.

As an employer, you will have access to a real-time interim billing report to assist you in coordinating coverage records and deductions before your payroll runs and before SHBP generates a final billing statement.

Your employees will be able to request enrollment and coverage changes based on qualifying events. Some requests will be approved

instantly based on V3 HPAS programmed business rules while others will pend receipt of supporting documentation and SHBP approval.

Both you and the employee will be able to monitor the status of requests. You will be able to generate activity reports and V3 HPAS will send notification to you when pending employee requests are approved.

Mid-year 2006, written communications and supporting documents submitted to SHBP will be imaged and queued to SHBP specialists for review. Look for more information about the new system in upcoming issues of Partners.

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About Vitech Systems Group

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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Vitech Systems Group has successfully implemented solutions similar to V3 HPAS over the last 15 years for many prominent organizations around the country including the Oklahoma State Education Employees' Group Insurance Board, the Central

State Teamsters, the Ohio Police and Firefighters, and the United Food and Commercial Workers.

V3 is a feature rich, fully-integrated out-of-the box application. It includes powerful features for the rule-based definition of contribution formulas,

benefit plan and fund structures, eligibility calculations, benefit calculations, disbursement procedures, and business processes.

For more information on V3 and Vitech Systems Group, please visit them at www.vitechinc.com.

Tech Corner

Interfaces

Many of you take advantage of the opportunity to exchange data with SHBP through the use of interfaces.

Agencies and BOEs currently use interfaces for many purposes including the submission of all eligibles to SHBP prior to Open Enrollment and comparing payroll deduction information.

Those of you that now pass data to SHBP are familiar with the Multi-Purpose Payroll location Interface, commonly referred to as “MPPI.”

The future use of interfaces is critical to achieving our mutual goal of operating in a truly “paperless” environment.

The more data we are able to share systematically through the exchange of interfaces, the less reconciliation of data will have to be accomplished.

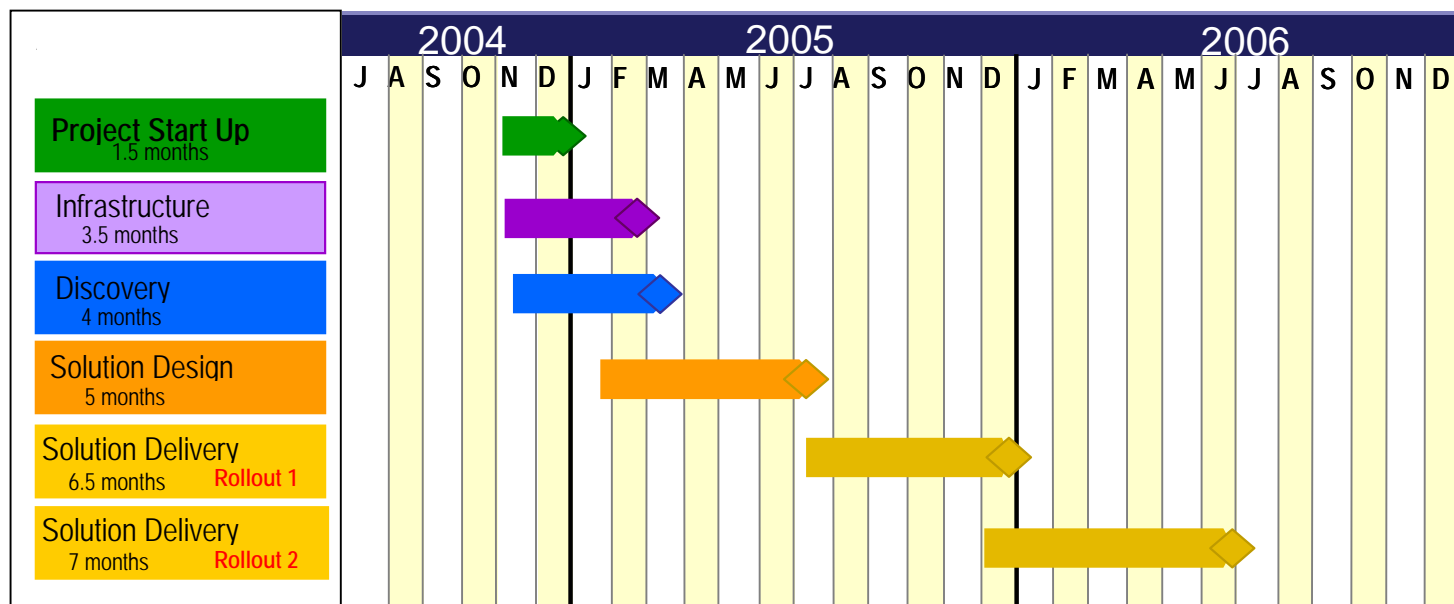
One of the significant advantages of the V3 HPAS solution will be the exchange of data via the web using the already established MPPI

layout. V3 allows for the secure exchange of information through an easy to use utility integrated into the application.

Future issues of “Partners” will include additional information on the exchange of interfaces, training, and testing schedules.

For more information on interfaces or other systems issues please contact Kenneth Darter, phone 404.656.6678, or e-mail kdarter@dch.state.ga.us.

V3 HPAS Project Timeline



Implementation Team

The HPAS Implementation Team brings together the most experienced personnel from Vitech Systems Group, Department of Community Health (DCH) and SHBP (State Health Benefit Plan).

Our team has years of combined experience in benefits administration, system implementation, and system testing. Several members of the team have twenty plus years of experience with the SHBP, so they know first hand what system enhancements would be beneficial to the staff, payroll locations and to the members of the SHBP.

We have also partnered with a small group of payroll locations to form a Stakeholders Focus Group.

Some of the objectives of the group are to develop partnerships for testing of the new system and to identify capabilities within the V3 system that may benefit payroll locations in the performance of Health Benefits administration.

The group consists of representatives from the following employing entities:

- Georgia Department of Corrections
- South Georgia Personnel Consortium
 - Coffee County Board of Education
- Georgia Department of Human Resources
- Office of Planning and Budget
- Gwinnett County Board of Education
- Gwinnett-Rockdale-Newton Community Service Board
- Georgia Merit System
- Fulton County Board of Education
- Georgia Department of Labor
- Cherokee County Board of Education
- Georgia Department of Community Health

The Chairperson for the Focus Group is Andrea Fuller-Ruffin, afuller-ruffin@dch.state.ga.us.



STATE HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN

USEFUL CONTACT INFORMATION

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Jim Aliffi – Project Manager | |
| jaliffi@dch.state.ga.us | 404.463.1225 |
| Susie Atcheson – Lead Business Analyst | |
| satcheson@dch.state.ga.us | 404.657.0227 |
| Nancy Hampton – Business Analyst | |
| nhampton@dch.state.ga.us | 404.651.7127 |
| Laura Chapman – Business Analyst | |
| lchapman@dch.state.ga.us | 404.656.7289 |
| Kenneth Darter – Lead Systems Analyst | |
| kdarter@dch.state.ga.us | 404.656.6678 |
| Patti Polk – Systems Analyst | |
| ppolk@dch.state.ga.us | 404.656.7219 |
| Cheryl Robinson-Smith – Systems Analyst | |
| csmith@dch.state.ga.us | 404.656.7221 |